PERRY COUNTY POOR FARM

DuQuoin Evening Call. Mon.2/28/1988
p/4A. Harking Back by Jane Minton.
100 Years Ago Feb. 29, 1888.

Dear Editor: (Regarding the ALMS HOUSE)

When I took charge of this house I asked if there were any of the vermin in the house. I was told there might be some on one of the inmates. I did not find only a few, but he and every other man were covered with them. In fact, they were so thick that they were on the outside of their clothing. The linings of their coats were covered with eggs. I received help from Dr. Huntsinger and Mr. Trefftz and the place is rid of the lice now, but I may have to call for help to keep the bedbugs from devouring some of the inmates, as they are beginning to crawl on the walls and floors these warm days.

/s/ James A. Mansfield.

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PERRY COUNTY PEST HOUSE

Perry County Advocate,Pinckneyville, Il
02 May 1957.

Included in a list of buildings and equipment to be sold at auction by the Co.Board of Comms. 1 p.m.,May 4,when the County Farm goes under the hammer, will be what is probably the last pesthouse in captivity.

The small 9x12 building was formerly used to isolate residents of the "poor farm" during periods of contagious illness.

All buildings will be moved from the property to make way for coming coal stripping operations on the site.

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Copied from the above by
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1957 - 1988

PERRY COUNTY ALMS HOUSE

DuQuoin Evening Call. Fri., 2/17/89
Harking Back by Jane Minton, p/4A Col 1,
100 Years ago 2/17/1889.

To the editor: A recent visit to the county alms house leads me to present a few notes. I found it to be a large brick house, containing some 20 rooms, with ninety acres of ground attached. The place is clean,light and sunny,and wholesome food is furnished the inmates. Careful attention and treatment of the sick form a prominent feature of the institution under its present management. An air of cheerfulness pervades the premises, and in my opinion, if all needy persons could be as well provided for as are the inmates of this establishment,there would be little room for complaint. Great credit is due to commissione: Walker for his untiring zeal in behalf of the welfare of the poor, and to Mr. Mansfield, for his earnest and faithful efforts in administering to their comforts. To all who have an interest in our unfortunate fellow beings, I would suggest that they pay a visit to the alms-house and see for themselves. They will find it a nice, desirable place, and instead of being designated as a "poor house," it should be called the county hospital.

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Copied from the above by
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2/18/89